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1 **RELATED APPLICATIONS**

2 This application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending application Ser. No.
3 09/847,534, filed May 1, 2001, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Correlating
4 Events", and incorporated herein by reference.

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6 **TECHNICAL FIELD**

7 The present invention relates to computing systems and, more particularly,
8 to a language for describing templates used to collect and correlate various events
9 generated throughout a computing environment.

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11 **BACKGROUND**

12 Computer systems, such as servers and desktop personal computers, are
13 expected to operate without constant monitoring. These computer systems
14 typically perform various tasks without the user's knowledge. When performing
15 these tasks, the computer system often encounters events that require a particular
16 action (such as logging the event, generating an alert for a particular system or
17 application, or performing an action in response to the event). Various
18 mechanisms are available to handle these events.

19 A computing enterprise typically includes one or more networks, services,
20 and systems that exchange data and other information with one another. The
21 enterprise may include one or more security mechanisms to safeguard data and
22 authenticate users and may utilize one or more different data transmission
23 protocols. At any particular time, one or more networks, services or systems may
24 be down (e.g., powered down or disconnected from one or more networks).
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